



November 04, 2022

Dear Family and Community Support Services & City of Cold Lake,

In recent efforts to create inclusive, visible displays of support to the 2SLGBTQ+ community, pride crosswalks are emerging in small communities. The intention to progress in awareness, inclusion and human rights efforts for visible and non-visible minorities who continue to be harassed and excluded from society.

Crosswalks are a staple piece to ensuring safety in our communities. A rather transportation structure given a fresh coat of colourful paint re-invented into a symbol of inclusivity. The paint communicates the adversity faced every day and re-imagines the idea of welcoming and diversity.

When the discussion of engineering the sidewalks rises, there is often the thoughts about; is that vital use of taxpayer's money, why apply the art, and is it just a distraction to drivers? There is also the thought of vandalism, which has occurred on many crosswalks painted in larger cities and municipalities.

The reality is that there are not enough studies or research to actively concur if the cost of safety is truly an issue with the development of the crosswalks. Painting the crosswalks is a low cost to municipalities and cities and again follow the main thought of visibility = tolerance and acceptance.

In our community CFB 4-Wing Defense Team Pride Advisory Organization (DTPAO) has created a pride crosswalk located between the new Health Centre and the church. The pride sidewalk was hand painted by volunteers and had been out for display since September 2020. The DTPAO has shared the materials and dimensions for their sidewalk creation for us to have as a tool for creating our own. Below you will find photos of senior officers and DTPAO members on the crosswalk.



Note: Since it's development there has been 1 report of vandalism due to a truck burnout which was then fixed with the permanent display painted in 2022.

Lakeland Safe Space is calling the City to action and the proposal for consideration stands as follows: that the City of Cold Lake create a progressive pride crosswalk in the community. After researching the community, we believe that the best spot for a pride crosswalk would be at a place with heavy familial traffic.

- 1. Clarks & Marina Parking lot**
(Lakeshore Drive & 7th Avenue)



- 2. Beach Crosswalk**
(1st Avenue & 18th Street)
- 3. Splash Park Crosswalk – Orthodontist**
(1st Avenue & 19th Street)

These selected places are all near and around the marina / beach. This is where Cold Lake see's the most action through the summer months. Creating pride crosswalks here encourage the community to see colour, inclusivity and is an opportunity for education and conversation. We would like to note that another possible place for consideration is main street.

When: The creation of the crosswalks would be best set for the Month of June when the City of Cold Lake proclaims pride month. This could be done either during the month for an unveiling or before.

We would like to thank the FCSS and City of Cold Lake for their efforts in creating and support Lakeland Safe Space and its initiatives. We continue this partnership in hopes for growth, visibility and progression which allows everyone to feel seen, safe and included.

Thank you for your consideration,
Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns, follow-up thoughts on this proposal.

Warm Regards,
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